

106TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 2421

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of the suitability and feasibility of establishing an Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area in Connecticut and Massachusetts.

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## IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 13, 2000

Mr. LIEBERMAN (for himself, Mr. DODD, Mr. KERRY, and Mr. KENNEDY) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

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## A BILL

To direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study of the suitability and feasibility of establishing an Upper Housatonic Valley National Heritage Area in Connecticut and Massachusetts.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Upper Housatonic Val-  
5       ley National Heritage Area Study Act of 2000”.

6       **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7       In this Act:

1           (1) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
2           the Secretary of the Interior.

3           (2) STUDY AREA.—The term “Study Area”  
4           means the Upper Housatonic Valley National Herit-  
5           age Area, comprised of—

6                   (A) the part of the watershed of the  
7                   Housatonic River, extending 60 miles from  
8                   Lanesboro, Massachusetts, to Kent, Con-  
9                   necticut;

10                   (B) the towns of Canaan, Cornwall, Kent,  
11                   Norfolk, North Canaan, Salisbury, Sharon, and  
12                   Warren, Connecticut; and

13                   (C) the towns of Alford, Dalton,  
14                   Egremont, Great Barrington, Hinsdale,  
15                   Lanesboro, Lee, Lenox, Monterey, Mount  
16                   Washington, New Marlboro, Pittsfield, Rich-  
17                   mond, Sheffield, Stockbridge, Tyringham,  
18                   Washington, and West Stockbridge, Massachu-  
19                   setts.

20   **SEC. 3. AUTHORIZATION OF STUDY.**

21           (a) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after the  
22           date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall complete  
23           a study of the Study Area.

1 (b) INCLUSIONS.—The study shall determine,  
2 through appropriate analysis and documentation, whether  
3 the Study Area—

4 (1) includes an assemblage of natural, histor-  
5 ical, and cultural resources that represent distinctive  
6 aspects of the heritage of the United States that—

7 (A) are worthy of recognition, conserva-  
8 tion, interpretation, and continued use; and

9 (B) would best be managed—

10 (i) through partnerships among public  
11 and private entities; and

12 (ii) by combining diverse and, in some  
13 cases, noncontiguous resources and active  
14 communities;

15 (2) reflects traditions, customs, beliefs, and  
16 folklife that are a valuable part of the story of the  
17 United States;

18 (3) provides outstanding opportunities to con-  
19 serve natural, historical, cultural, or scenic features;

20 (4) provides outstanding recreational and edu-  
21 cational opportunities;

22 (5) contains resources important to any theme  
23 of the Study Area that retains a degree of integrity  
24 capable of supporting interpretation;

1           (6) includes residents, business interests, non-  
2           profit organizations, and State and local govern-  
3           ments that—

4                   (A) are involved in the planning of the  
5           Study Area;

6                   (B) have developed a conceptual financial  
7           plan that outlines the roles of all participants  
8           for development and management of the Study  
9           Area, including the Federal Government; and

10                  (C) have demonstrated support for the  
11           concept of a national heritage area;

12           (7) has a potential management entity to work  
13           in partnership with residents, business interests,  
14           nonprofit organizations, and State and local govern-  
15           ments to develop a national heritage area consistent  
16           with continued State and local economic activity;  
17           and

18           (8) is depicted on a conceptual boundary map  
19           that is supported by the public.

20           (c) CONSULTATION.—In conducting the study, the  
21           Secretary shall consult with—

22                   (1) State historic preservation officers;

23                   (2) State historical societies; and

24                   (3) other appropriate organizations.

1       (d) REPORT.—Not later than 3 fiscal years after the  
2 date on which funds are made available to carry out this  
3 Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Re-  
4 sources of the House of Representatives and the Com-  
5 mittee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate  
6 a report on the findings, conclusions, and recommenda-  
7 tions of the study.

8 **SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

9       There is authorized to be appropriated \$300,000 to  
10 carry out this Act.

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